Public Works
Engineering

CREST DRIVE COMMUNITY TEAM
CSS PROCESS MEETING SUMMARY

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Introduction

The June 15th CDCT meeting was held at the Washington Park Center from 7 P.M to 9 P.M. Margot Helphand facilitated the meeting. A participant sign-in sheet is attached on page 8.

The meeting agenda, developed at the previous meeting as specified by the CDCT group agreements, follows:

1. **Agenda Review/Meeting Summary**
2. **Community Comments**
3. **Introductions**
4. **Member & Group Agreements Check-In**
5. **Placemaking Activity**
6. **Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) Overview**
7. **Public Involvement Goals & Stakeholder Identification**
8. **July 6th Meeting Preparation & Agenda Setting**
9. **Check-Out**

Agenda Review/Meeting Summary – Community Comments – Introductions

Margot presented the evening's agenda and the meeting began shortly thereafter. The first three agenda items for the June 15th meeting were folded into one longer discussion. CDCT committee members were generally satisfied with the agenda developed at the previous meeting. Before introducing individual CDCT members, Margot sought comments from the general public. None were received. Following the community comment period, Margot suggested that group members introduce themselves. Attending the meeting was Jenifer Willer, the City of Eugene staff engineer assigned to the Crest Drive CSS process.

Member & Group Agreements Check-In

Following the initial discussion and introductions, Margot dedicated a brief period of time to revisiting the CDCT group agreements. The first item discussed dealt with CDCT alternates. Margot asked for clarification from the committee on alternates' roles and responsibilities. The CDCT generally agreed that alternates were allowed to participate in meetings; however it was expected that the regular CDCT member would keep their alternate up to speed and informed about the process. Suggestions for accomplishing this included supplying alternates with meeting summaries and by meeting with them individually prior to the scheduled CDCT committee meeting. The CDCT expects alternates to focus on current agenda items and refrain from digressing into past issues. Margot reiterated her expectation that CDCT members raise questions and concerns about group agreements during meetings.

After the discussion about alternates and group agreements, Margot polled for additional comments. Two were made:

- In reference to the May 8th Eugene City Council Work Session, Kathy Saranpa expressed her appreciation of Lisa Gardner's presentation about the CDCT and the CSS process.

- Another CDCT committee member reminded the group that Marc Schlossberg's Crest Area Community Atlas is available to review at the Wayne Morse Ranch (also available online at http://www.uoregon.edu/%7ecrest/index.html).

Margot suggested the agenda should be modified to move the Context Sensitive Solutions presentation before the Placemaking activity. Committee members agreed to allow the change.

CSS Overview
Lisa Gardener began the CSS presentation by noting that it was similar to the version made at the May 8th Council Work Session. Both presentations are available on the City of Eugene's Crest Drive website. Immediately after the CSS overview, Margot asked for questions and comments from the CDCT. Questions, comments and responses follow:

- Did the City of Eugene use a CSS process with the Ayers Road project?
  - Not as in-depth compared to the current Crest Drive CSS process, although it did use CSS elements. It should be emphasized that each project utilizing CSS will be different; in other words each CSS process must be built from the ground up to fit the parameters of that specific project.
- None of the [CSS] examples shown in the presentation had as many natural features as are present in the Crest Neighborhood.
  - The Placemaking activity will hopefully get at those things for Crest.
  - Shelton-McMurphy Blvd is an example of CSS in Eugene with many natural elements.
- It seems like any City initiated project would have to include involvement of stakeholders, early communication and all of the other CSS principles – what is different here?
  - There are different levels of involvement; this particular process is more involved and in-depth and included more early ground rule and process work than a typical project. Typically, other projects would not involve the public until after conceptual designs are completed.
- Please make a PDF copy of the CSS Overview presentation available on the City's Crest website.

Placemaking
On May 30th, Margot distributed a Placemaking homework assignment to the CDCT. Committee members were instructed to complete the assignment and prepare to discuss and share their work with the whole group at the June 15 meeting. This activity provided an early opportunity to describe and inventory critical qualitative aspects of the Crest Neighborhood.

At the meeting Margot described placemaking and quickly went over the instructions for the assigned homework. Committee members were given a few minutes to reflect on their placemaking experiences, and then were instructed to write their ideas on large sticky notes and post them on the wall. Ideas were categorized base on an activity completed several months earlier. The categories and notes follow:

Peace and Quiet
- ❖ Stars, owls, bats, shrew moles, nocturnal wildlife, rescue volunteers in wildlife, quiet night
- ❖ Fewer cars, safety
- ❖ Peace! – 21st century, fuel economy, ensure bicycling & walking, bus riding and tiny cars
- ❖ Slow traffic helps create peace
- ❖ Slow traffic flow
- ❖ Early morning birdsong, chickadees…. Hummingbirds
- ❖ Lack of traffic & lack of fast moving traffic
- ❖ Natural sounds not drowned out by road noise

- ❖ Smooth paved street
- ❖ Peace = birdsong and leaves rustling
- ❖ Neighbors in harmony with common identity help create peace
- ❖ The reality or illusion of predominantly local traffic = "Neighborhood Feel"
- ❖ "Slow down, you move too fast…"
- ❖ Morse Ranch, open space, gateway to neighborhood, slow down, rural road limits access
- ❖ Aside from boom-boxes & pit fires, lack of artificial stimulation

Near Eugene, but Still Very Natural
- ❖ Fences, hedges blend
- ❖ Overall environment is in scale, site-appropriate
- ❖ The look and feel of a country lane in the city
- ❖ Narrow roadbed
- ❖ Houses tend to be modest, hidden
- ❖ Love walking through neighborhood
- ❖ Nature comes to the edge of the road – trees, plants, etc…
- ❖ Trees overhang roadway
- ❖ Geographic location: biking and walking, backs up to Lane County, good access to East and West Eugene and University of Oregon

Historical Significance
- ❖ Narrow street
- ❖ "It's my duty and privilege to steward the past of the property I live on"
- ❖ Winding roads like Lorane Hwy which used to be a coal haul road in the early 1900's
- ❖ Young – Pallett House 1910: The intersection is historic and should retain its quirky character
- ❖ Scenic views along meandering road
- ❖ Generous pedestrian paths
- ❖ Winding road: historical
- ❖ "I value that I don't live in a cookie-cutter neighborhood"
- ❖ We have a chance to preserve – no reason to destroy the "feeling" of this area
- ❖ Historic building provides community meeting place, Wayne Morse values…
- ❖ Others who came after us should be able to experience what we can

Recreational Opportunities
- ❖ Walking everywhere – 17 acres of open space pathways are the connectivity = not automobiles
- ❖ Neighbors choose to walk to local businesses rather than drive everywhere. We enjoy the scenery
- ❖ Great gateway for cyclists into the Lorane & Crow Valleys
- ❖ Gateway to Lorane Valley for bicyclists
- ❖ Wayne Morse dog park and open grass area, Crest elementary playground, track, and ball fields
- ❖ Shared roadway: bikes, cars and pedestrians
- ❖ Gathering in the park, people talking, walking together outdoors, and taking care of animals… rural play!
- ❖ Love walking to Morse Ranch dog park
- ❖ Dogs, people, bicycles, children walking in the middle of the road going to our park

Long-term Residents
- ❖ Mature gardens
- ❖ We stay in this neighborhood because of its specialness – The last thing we need is to feel like we live in a suburb

Wooded & Forested

- ❖ Absence of asphalt and cement – predominance of vegetation
- ❖ We live here because it is rural, bucolic, and beautiful. Don't change this element of the neighborhood
- ❖ The view of Spencer's Butte and the surrounding hills including Crest Drive neighborhood on my commute

Country in the City
- ❖ Lots of greenery, trees, shrubs and wilderness vegetation
- ❖ Narrow country lane – doesn't look like a normal city street
- ❖ Lack of curbs and gutters
- ❖ Winding road
- ❖ Lots of trees, no sidewalks
- ❖ Non-urban "feel", tree canopy, & curves in street
- ❖ Narrow roadway encourages slower driving
- ❖ Proximity of rural area to city center
- ❖ 1-mile from the city limits on Chambers to shopping on 29th & Willamette. Area in-between an interface of woods with homes in natural settings
- ❖ Low density
- ❖ Rural residents can access urban services like LTD bus
- ❖ There is a sense of "slowness" of quietude… of peace. That sensibility, if anything, needs to be enhanced
- ❖ Roads narrow, winding
- ❖ Lorane Hwy as a transition when bicycling from the City to the Lorane Valley
- ❖ Dark at night
- ❖ Minimal infrastructure (no signals, formal crosswalks, lighting, power poles, etc…)
- ❖ Lack of fences
- ❖ Minimal footprint (not the dominant feature, even when you are on the road)

Nearby Nature
- ❖ Streams connect wildlife corridors, parks & cemetery link together, continuous nature
- ❖ Lush environment
- ❖ Forested neighborhood, wildlife, birds
- ❖ I am grateful that I live in a place where I see wild turkeys, deer, pileated woodpeckers and humans all tolerating each others' decision to live here
- ❖ Natural waterways
- ❖ Deer, turkeys, raccoons on road
- ❖ Tree canopy
- ❖ The close in greenery encourages wildlife & wildlife safety by slowing drivers
- ❖ Open spaces, oak grove, meadows, pasture w/ animals, neighborhood paths
- ❖ Wildlife
- ❖ Generations of wildlife, mature trees
- ❖ Lots of wildlife and habitat

Unconventional Environment
- ❖ A twisty road framed by drooping limbs and accented by a goofy mailbox = eclectic
- ❖ Narrow streets, semi-wild trees, eclectic mix of styles and income levels create community identity
- ❖ The undeveloped look of Friendly & Storey with open water run-off and greenery to the edge of the road shoulder
- ❖ Plenty of wooded lots and open streams
- ❖ Abundance of wildlife

❖ The gullies, ravines, streams that cut through the neighborhood need not only to be maintained, but improved. And they need to become accessible
❖ Narrow streets, trees and vegetation near road, elevation cooler = fewer inversions, space between houses, sunsets & sunrises

Other – No Category
❖ Livability: neighbors know each other and respect privacy
❖ An opportunity to solve transportation a problem
❖ An opportunity for professional challenge and growth with CSS
❖ Property values, which ties to "these" amenities & could be adversely affected by poor roadway design
❖ My property value would go up when EWEB electric lines & poles were put underground a slow moving

Once committee members finished posting their placemaking notes on the wall, Margot read them back to the group and asked the committee members to comment on what they saw and heard. Comments included:
❖ I see common themes
❖ I am lucky to live here
❖ Property values are high because of the values expressed in this exercise
❖ We should also consider the monetary value of property
❖ This [CSS] process should increase property values
❖ As I observed the area around Wayne Morse, I learned that many of the people using the dog park walk rather than drive to get there.
❖ How would non-residents experience this neighborhood? Would they come up with the same descriptors?
❖ I've talked to people living elsewhere who drive through the neighborhood and they do appreciate its characteristics.

During the comment period, City staff noted:
❖ I don't live here, but I experience this area riding my bike through it. I see the CSS process as an opportunity for professional growth and to better our profession. Much of what the CDCT expressed during the placemaking exercise relates closely to land use decisions and zoning regulations.

After CDCT members commented on the placemaking exercise, one member asked what would be done with the information gathered during the exercise and what the next steps were. Margot suggested that everything on the wall would be captured and written down. One committee member suggested that the CDCT revisit these and keep them throughout the process.

Public Involvement Goals & Stakeholder Identification
As stated in its work plan, the CDCT must develop a set of public involvement goals to help focus and guide the CSS process. This agenda item was the first take at developing broad public involvement goals for the CDCT. Margot asked the CDCT to consider what successful public involvement looks like and to brainstorm goals. Specific tools to address these goals will be identified in the near future.

Public Involvement Goals

• Early, often and continuous	• Neighborhood residents are educated about the CSS process and the CDCT

- Wide, inclusive and comprehensive distribution of information to households
- Objective framing of communication process
- Comprehensive outreach to stakeholders

- Revisit mission statement: Public involvement is mission-driven
- Capture and communicate non-mission related issues
- Focus on the goal with empathy

During the public involvement goal brainstorming, time was also provided for identifying stakeholders in the process. During the stakeholder identification process, one member commented that stakeholders had already previously been identified during an earlier CDCA transportation process committee meeting. Stakeholders identified during the September 22, 2005 CDCA meeting are listed below those identified at the CDCT meeting. Discussion follows.

Stakeholder Identification (CDCT 6/15/2006)

- Wayne Morse Ranch Users
- Dog Park Users
- Property Owners
- Lane Transit District
- Riders
- Drivers
- Organization
- Bicyclists

- Pedestrians
- Neighborhood Residents
- Disability Advocates/Disabled - LILA
- School(s)/4-J District
- Utilities
- Fire
- Emergency Services
- Eugene Tree Foundation

Stakeholder Identification (CDCA Transportation Process Committee, 9/22/2005)

- CDN: residents; abutting property owners (assessable; non-assessable)
- Motorists
- Bicyclists
- Pedestrians
- Transit riders
- Students

- Park users (regional parks; neighborhood parks)
- Emergency Services
- LTD
- 4j
- Residents of adjoining neighborhood
- Eugene Bike Coalition

After compiling a list of public involvement goals and identifying stakeholders, Margot asked for clarifying questions and discussion items. The first question posed was whether directly affected property owners had primacy over other stakeholders. City staff responded by stating that "There is no group agreement or official statement that one set of stakeholders has primacy over another; however the composition of the CDCT itself is heavily weighted towards affected property owners. The likelihood of getting stakeholders to buy into the process would be lessened if they perceived their input to be less valuable than others. This group will filter input through the consensus decision-making model; it has a responsibility to involve the full range of stakeholders." Another CDCT member noted that one thing binding everyone is the desire for good roads.

Margot suggested that Lisa Gardner would match public involvement goals to an appropriate outreach toolset and bring back a matrix to the next CDCT meeting on July 6th. Lisa noted that this would be a draft with opportunities to add additional tools and (or) stakeholders later.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, one committee member suggested the possibility of combining the September CDCA meeting with the September CDCT meeting to provide opportunities for outreach and reporting back to the larger community. Responses from Margot and City staff indicated that it was a possibility, but was likely too early to make a decision.

Agenda Setting
The committee discussed plans for the July 6th meeting. Margot and City staff proposed that July 6th be dedicated to walking around the neighborhood with the purpose of inventorying and gathering information by committee members. This inventory will capture items such as trees, natural features, road problems and any other item deemed important by a committee member. The July 6 meeting will begin at 6 pm instead of the normal starting time of 7 pm. We will gather at Morse Ranch for the tour and return there for the meeting after the tour.

July 6 Agenda Items:
- 6 pm walkabout
- Return to Morse Ranch for meeting
- Inventory walkabout information
- Discussion of Public Involvement tools
- Plan for next meeting.
- As usual we will begin each meeting with a check in and end with a check out

During the discussion, members posed the following questions:
- Will the maps have tax lot details?
- Will there be opportunities for those unable to attend the July 6th meeting to provide their input?
- Will the committee walk around individually or in small groups?
- Should people bring digital cameras or video cameras?
- What are data points?

City staff noted that this activity would be a precursor to the actual physical survey and would be used to identify items of importance to the neighbors so they can be included as "data points" in the physical survey work.

Check Out
CDCT members made a number of comments during the meeting check out period. They include the following:
- Should the group hold another meeting during August to have an Engineering 101 presentation?
    - The CDCT was generally opposed to adding another summer meeting. One member suggested having a list of relevant engineering "summer reading" resources made available by the City of Eugene.
- We should strive to get input from everyone on the committee, including those who are quieter during discussions.
- Please ensure the placemaking values are captured.
- My trust in the City of Eugene has increased greatly – I feel warm and fuzzy.
- I'm impressed with the process
- This was a good meeting
- Bravo, talking about property values
- I appreciate City staff sincerity
- Good and fine

Crest Drive Community Team Sign In Sheet		
Name	Phone	15-Jun
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Farkas, Paul	541-485-0859	
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Gryc, Tina	541-345-2281	✔
Hawley, Sherie	541-913-2730	✔
Huestis, Hal	541-345-7286	✔
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*Wolling, Sue		
Gary Gamer		✔
*Helgeson, Dick		
*Jacobson, Kirk		
*Lorish, Elizabeth		
*Jost, Jonathan		
*Rowland, Bruce		